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25 September 1964  
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## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

THROUGH: Secretary, Technical Development Committee

SUBJECT: Status of Attitude Determination System, [REDACTED]  
Allotment No. 5155-4100, Contract [REDACTED]

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In March 1964 a proposal for a recording vertical reference system was received through [REDACTED] OSA, DD/S&T, by [REDACTED]. It had been sent to NPIC for information purposes only, and no contractual action was anticipated on the part of P&DS. Subsequent action negated the vertical system proposal and in its place a proposal for an horizon camera system with statescope was introduced and tentatively accepted.

The latter proposal was passed back to [REDACTED] OSA, DD/S&T, for his interest, since there is an existing need for attitude determination with the 112B camera. (The 112B system does not have benefit of an horizon camera.) This need also has implications for the exploitation end of the business: attitude data is a basic ingredient in calculating the geometry of photographs. TID has stated their need for the further accuracies that an attitude determination device would yield with the 112B camera system.

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It was agreed that NPIC should assume financial responsibility based upon its need for the development and using funds from the 1965 fiscal year budget. [REDACTED] accordingly, was planning to set the project aside until an airplane was available for the contractor to work on. [REDACTED] was to assume the responsibility for installation of their system in the vehicle.

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However, on short notice a U-2 became available; but no contract existed which would cover the project. As a result, [REDACTED] consented to an immediate transfer of funds [REDACTED] to OSA to get the project contracted with [REDACTED] the subsidiary of [REDACTED] which would handle the development. The necessary covering paperwork was to follow the rush action as soon as possible.

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A request for the transfer of funds was sent to [REDACTED] on 27 July and was authorized and signed by [REDACTED] on 28 July 1964. Under Allotment No. 5155-4100 LB/SS/NPIC requested Contracts Division and Budget and Finance Branch, OSA/DD/S&T, to negotiate a covert contract with [REDACTED] on NPIC's behalf. This document was dated 28 July 1964.

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[redacted]

Through OSA, a contract was negotiated with [redacted] 11 August 1964. We have been informed that a copy was forwarded to us 20 August 1964.

The development involves two pieces of equipment -- an horizon camera and a statoscope (altitude reference unit) -- which will function together to obtain the vehicle's attitude in roll and pitch as well as altitude. All this will be executed at the instant of the exposure command to the main reconnaissance camera. The acquired data will subsequently be processed on the ground for visual and/or computer readout -- for photo reduction and interpretation.

TID/NPIC will coordinate action necessary to handle any data produced as a result of the proposed system.

[redacted]  
Development Branch, P&DS

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